One principle about life I have found is we all are traveling on a path. Every one of us has a past and a future. There is one catch in this path though; it is not an easy straight flat plane. This path is rigorous with rocks and thorns, heavy laden with forks in the road. But, at the end of this path is the thing we all desire. What makes all of us different is how we go about getting to that goal. Martin Luther King Jr. was an honorable man who chose the right path to take, and stuck to it. His works and writings have made me think about my past, rethink my present, and have higher hopes for my future. Let me tell you why.

When I was younger I remember a boy in my elementary school who was African American was made fun of. It was because he looked and dressed a little different that boys in my school were relentless. At the time I was not strong enough to take a stand and tell the boys who were making fun of him to stop. I did not want to get made fun of as well. I regret, even to this day, not being able to make that decision. But, I learned a lesson that I will hold close to me for the rest of my life, to take a stand against opposition.

In High School, people make racist comments or racist jokes quite often. Remembering the experience as a boy, I do not tolerate to listen or share them. The hardest thing for a High School student to do, I believe, is to go against the flow what everyone else wants, and say something is wrong. I believe people don't ta the same stance that King did. If they would then they make themselves a target these degrading comments, so most do not. Two weeks ago, I was walking to a J game. There was an African American man who walked past me. A woman, who

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walking the opposite direction, started shouting profane and racist comments. I walked up to this woman and said, "Please do not say that." She then started to say the same things to me, but the feeling inside I had felt great. I put myself in harm's way to help another, but it changed my life.

If people just took a stand no matter how small, the world would be a different place. The world changed when King took his stand against it. He knew what was right and stuck to it even though it would eventually kill him. If we can all take small stands, we will be able to change the High School experience, and maybe even our lives, like it has mine. Robert Frost so eloquently put it "Two roads diverged in a wood and I - I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."